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--AND NOW I'M GOING TO USE THEM TO KILL YOU, AQUAMAN!
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--AND LIVES!!
YOUR TELEPATHIC CONTROL OF SEA CREATURES MAY BE STRONGER THAN MINE, MARAUDER--BUT I'M BETTING I CAN STILL TAKE YOU!
THERE'S MORE TO THIS GAME THAN FIGHTING WITH FISH!
NOW! BEGINNING A NEW CHAPTER IN THE CRUSADING CAREER OF...
AQUAMAN
THE MENACE OF THE MARINE MARAUDER

REUNITING THE TWIN TITANS OF AQUAMAN'S PAST: STEVE SKEATES (WRITER) & JIM APARO (ARTIST) / AIDED AND ABETTED BY: LIZ BERUBE (COLORIST)

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DAYS AGO, IT BEGAN... EVEN AS, IN FAR ATLANTIS FAR BENEATH THE OCEAN WAVES, AQUAMAN WAS BATTLING FOR HIS LIFE AGAINST THE USURPER OF HIS THRONE*..
*SEE LAST ISSUE FOR AQUAMAN'S SHOWDOWN WITH THE SHARK--Paul.
...FOR IT WAS THEN, UPON THE SURFACE, THAT THE MARAUDER MADE HIS FIRST APPEARANCE...
SEEMINGLY COMING FROM OUT OF NOWHERE, RIDING ATOP A HUGE SPERM WHALE... WITH A SCHOOL OF PORPOISES AND DOLPHINS FOLLOWING IN HIS WAKE... AND ARMED WITH A PLAN TO SHOCK THE SEAS!
WITHIN SECONDS, A SHIP CARRYING AN EXTREMELY IMPORTANT MEDICAL SHIPMENT BOUND FOR EUROPE WAS SURROUNDED...
...AND A SEEMINGLY CONFIDENT MARINE MARAUDER WAS SHOUTING HIS DEMANDS...
I CAN COMMAND ANY ONE OF THOSE WHALES TO CRUSH YOUR SHIP! AND I SHALL--IF YOU DO NOT HEED MY COMMANDS!
I WANT YOUR CARGO! I DON'T CARE ABOUT YOUR LIVES! I SHALL DESTROY YOU ALL TO GET AT YOUR SHIP IF YOU DO NOT SURRENDER!
C'MON, YOU COWARDS! SOMEHOW WE'VE GOT TO FIGHT HIM! WE CAN'T LET ONE MAN TAKE--
NO WAY, CAPTAIN! WE SIGNED ON TO TOTE CARGO AND WORK EQUIPMENT, NOT TO FIGHT LUNATICS!
AND SO...
HA! IT'S MINE NOW --ALL MINE!
AND THE WORLD WILL HAVE TO PAY A PRETTY PENNY TO GET IT BACK!

SOON, IN A HIDDEN WOODED COVE...
IT WENT LIKE CLOCK-WORK!
AND TO THINK-- BACK WHEN I WAS A LOWLY MARINE BIOLOGIST, I WOULD NEVER HAVE IMAGINED SUCH A THING WERE POSSIBLE...
...LET ALONE THAT I'D BE THE MAN RESPONSIBLE...
THE SENDING DEVICES I HAD SEWN INTO MY MASK WORKED PERFECTLY --AS I KNEW THEY WOULD! THE FISH OBEYED MY COMMANDS TO THE LETTER!
PERHAPS SOMEDAY I'LL BE ABLE TO MODIFY THE RADIO WAVES SO THAT THEY WILL TRAVEL THROUGH WATER AND THEN I CAN AFFECT ALL THE CREATURES OF THE SEA! BUT FOR NOW, THE AIR-BREATHING SEA CREATURES I DO COMMAND GIVE ME ALL THE POWER I NEED!
AND NOW THEY'LL GIVE ME ALL THE MONEY I NEED!
VACCINE SHIPMENT HIJACKED
15¢
RANSOM DEMANDED
HOW COULD THIS HAPPEN! HOW COULD WE LET THIS HAPPEN?
SOME FOOL WHO CALLS HIMSELF THE MARINE MARAUDER MAKING OFF WITH THE ENTIRE SHIPMENT OF SWINE-FLU VACCINE BOUND FOR EUROPE!
UNLESS THAT SHIPMENT IS RECOVERED AND DELIVERED IMMEDIATELY... EUROPE MAY HAVE AN EPIDEMIC ON ITS HANDS...
AND WE WILL HAVE A DIPLOMATIC CRISIS ON OURS!

BUT, SENATOR STORM, I STILL DON'T SEE WHAT WE'RE GETTING SO UPSET ABOUT!
WHY DOES IT HAVE TO BE RECOVERED! CAN'T SOMEONE SIMPLY WHIP UP A NEW BATCH AND SEND THAT OFF IMMEDIATELY?
WE'LL LEARN THE ANSWER TO THAT QUESTION MOMENTARILY... BUT, RIGHT NOW, LET'S REJOIN THE STARS OF THIS MAGAZINE--
--AS THEY APPROACH THE FAMED AQUA-CAVE...
BEEP BEEP
IT FEELS GOOD TO HAVE ALL THAT TROUBLE IN ATLANTIS FINALLY BEHIND US! NO MORE ROYAL PROBLEMS, MERA--NOW WE'LL JUST WORRY ABOUT REAL ONES!
NOW WE CAN CONCENTRATE ON SOMETHING OTHER THAN--
HEY! THE JLA COMMUNICATOR--IT'S ALREADY BEEPING ITS HEAD OFF!
AND THAT'S THE PICTURE, AQUAMAN! IT TAKES TWO WEEKS TO PREPARE THE VACCINE. THE U.S. GOVERNMENT DOES, HOWEVER, HAVE ENOUGH RESERVE SERUM TO AT LEAST STAVE OFF AN EPIDEMIC WHILE NEW RESOURCES ARE BEING PREPARED!
--AND THOSE RESERVES ARE BEING SHIPPED OFF TO EUROPE TODAY--RIGHT?
C'MON, MERA! LET'S GO! THE SHIPMENT WILL HAVE A HEAVILY-ARMED NATO ESCORT! BUT THEY STILL MAY NEED OUR ASSISTANCE!
THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT IT, AQUAMAN--
--THEY WILL!
THERE IT IS!
THEY WERE FOOLS TO THINK I'D LET THEM GET THIS SHIPMENT THROUGH AND THUS DESTROY THE VALUE OF MY OWN SUPPLY!
AND EVEN THAT ARMED ESCORT POSES LITTLE THREAT TO ME!
AFTER ALL, I HAVE NO NEED TO CAPTURE THIS SHIPMENT! ALL I HAVE TO DO IS HAVE ONE OF MY WHALES RAM THAT SHIP AND SINK IT!
THEN THE SUPPLY OF VACCINE THAT'S IN MY POSSESSION WILL BE WORTH EVEN MORE THAN IT ALREADY IS!
CONTINUED ON 5TH PAGE FOLLOWING!

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THE THREE BOTTLES
ROCK SINGING GROUP
ACCOMPANIED by
"THE MUSE"
ON HIS MUSICAL SYNTHESIZER
EERIE... ROBIN... BUT THIS MUSIC ALMOST SOUNDS HUMAN.
HOLY DO RE ME... DO YOU THINK...
THAT THE MUSE IS SOMEHOW CONNECTED WITH THE DISAPPEARANCE OF ROCK SINGERS RICH JAGGARD, JIM COLORADO AND ELFISH HIPSLEY?
...PRECISELY!
NO ONE KNOWS (BUT ME) THAT MY SYNTHESIZER TRANSFORMS PEOPLE INTO MUSICAL NOTES... SO I CAN HAVE THE BEST MUSIC... I GET THE BEST PEOPLE.
MUSE, YOU'RE WORKING TOO HARD. TAKE A BREAK.
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AN UNLUCKY BREAK FOR ME. A LUCKY BREAK FOR THEM.
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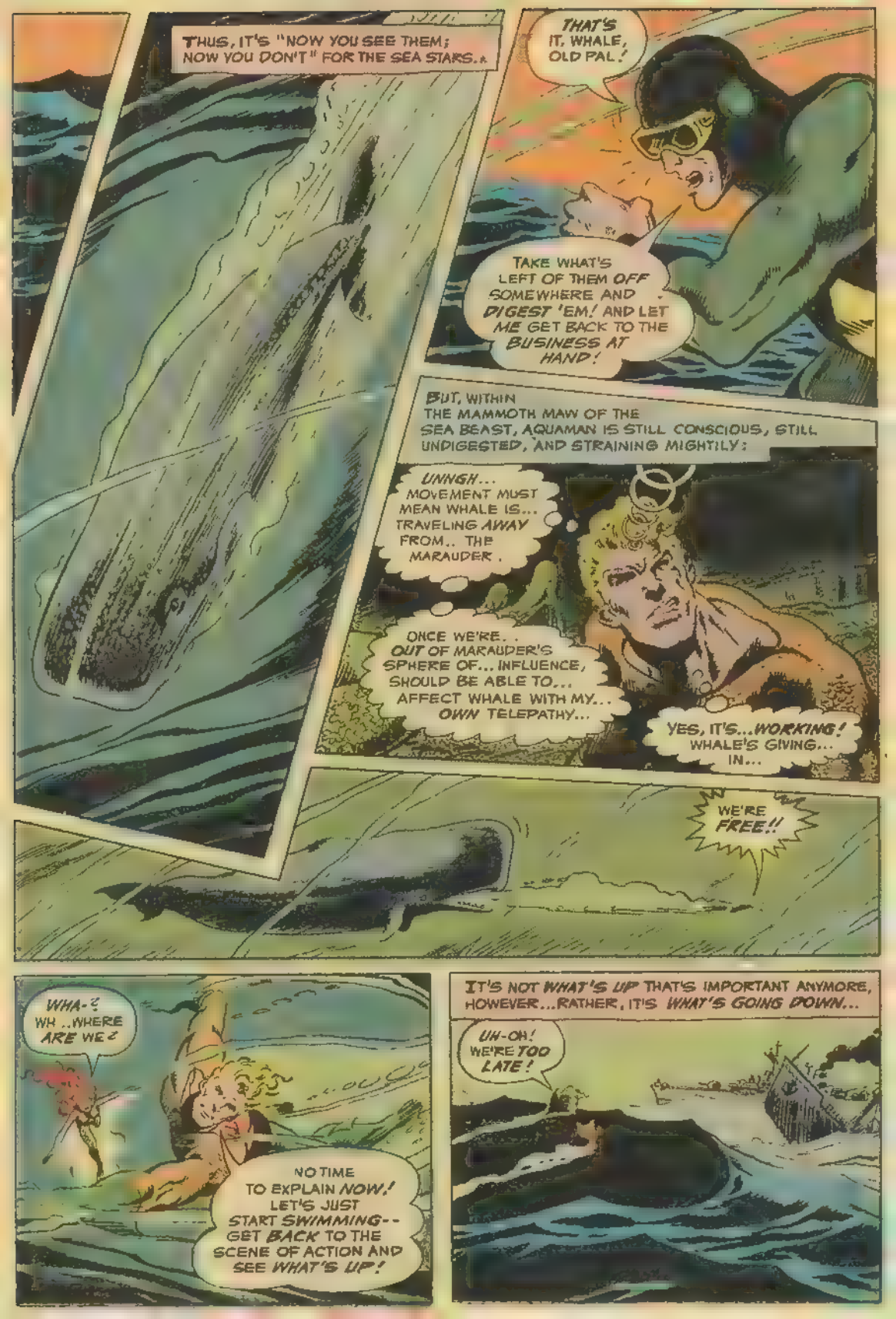
EVEN AS THE MARAUDER GIVES HIS TELEPATHIC COMMAND--ABOARD THE LEAD ESCORT VESSEL, WE FIND...
GENERAL HORGAN, SIR--BUT I'M SURE SOMETHING'S WRONG WITH THE SONAR SCANNER! MAYBE YOU'D BETTER TAKE A LOOK!
WRONG--THE BLASTED THING'S GOING WILD!
UH...S-SIR! L-LOOK!
LORD! A WHOLE ATTACK SQUAD OF WHALES--TRAVELING IN FORMATION!
OPEN FIRE ON THEM! BUT ONE OF THEM'S BOUND TO GET THROUGH AND SINK THE SHIPMENT!
THAT MUST BE THE MARAUDER'S PLAN! AND HE'S HIDING--SO WE CAN'T TOUCH HIS TENDER HIDE!
BUT WHILE THAT MAY PROTECT HIM FROM NATO'S SURFACE-TO-SURFACE MISSILE, IT'S NOT ADEQUATE PROTECTION AGAINST AN UNDERSEA ATTACK...
SO FAR, SO GOOD!
NOW, LET'S HOPE HE DOESN'T NOTICE ME TILL I'M ON TOP OF HIM!
AN ATTACK SUPPORTED BY A SHATTERING HARD-WATER ATTACK ON THE SURFACE...
NO WAY I CAN STOP THE WHALES WITH MY HARD-WATER POWERS! BUT I CAN SLOW THEM DOWN!
AND MAYBE BUY AQUAMAN ENOUGH TIME TO STOP THE MARAUDER HIMSELF!
HOWEVER, IT'S ALREADY TOO LATE FOR THAT.
WHA-? WHO COULD THAT--
WAIT! THAT'S QUEEN MERA--AQUAMAN'S WIFE! BUT... WHERE'S THE SEA KING HIMSELF! IF HE'S--
--BEHIND ME!

WELL, WELL, GREAT SEA KING, I DIDN'T THINK SNEAKING UP ON AN OPPONENT WAS QUITE YOUR STYLE!
...THOUGH, IN THIS PARTICULAR CASE, I SUPPOSE IT WAS THE LOGICAL ALTERNATIVE--SEEING AS YOU'VE FINALLY MET YOUR MATCH!
I TRUST YOU CATCH MY DRIFT!
YOWP! I KNEW HE WAS SOMEHOW TELEPATHICALLY COMMANDING THE SEA CREATURES, BUT I FIGURED I COULD OVER-RIDE HIS COMMANDS WITH MY OWN TELEPATHY!
NO GO! HIS POWER OVER THEM APPARENTLY IS EVEN STRONGER THAN MY OWN!
MEANTIME...
KNEW I COULDN'T KEEP IT UP FOR LONG! WEAKENING...
THE WAVE I TOSSED AT THE WHALES, BEING BUFFETED BACK! CAN'T FIGHT IT... GETTING TOSSED...
AND YOUR HUSBAND IS NOT FARING ANY BETTER, SEA QUEEN...
WHOOOMP
OOMPHF!
HE'S WON THIS ROUND! BUT KNOCKING ME INTO THE WATER DOESN'T EXACTLY WIN THE FIGHT!
AS FATE WOULD HAVE IT, THE KING AND QUEEN ARE THROWN TO NEARLY THE SAME SPOT...
MERA--LOOKS LIKE SHE'S PASSED OUT!
FEELING GROGGY MYSELF, BUT--
THE MARAUDER'S THROWING EVERYTHING AT US! NO WAY WE CAN MOVE TO THE SIDE IN TIME!
ONLY ONE WAY TO AVOID THOSE TEETH, AND THAT'S TO DIVE IN THROUGH THEM!
...CARRYING MERA!
WHA--?


THUS, IT'S "NOW YOU SEE THEM; NOW YOU DON'T" FOR THE SEA STARS.
THAT'S IT, WHALE, OLD PAL!
TAKE WHAT'S LEFT OF THEM OFF SOMEWHERE AND DIGEST 'EM! AND LET ME GET BACK TO THE BUSINESS AT HAND!
BUT, WITHIN THE MAMMOTH MAW OF THE SEA BEAST, AQUAMAN IS STILL CONSCIOUS, STILL UNDIGESTED, AND STRAINING MIGHTILY:
UNNGH... MOVEMENT MUST MEAN WHALE IS... TRAVELING AWAY FROM.. THE MARAUDER.
ONCE WE'RE.. OUT OF MARAUDER'S SPHERE OF... INFLUENCE, SHOULD BE ABLE TO... AFFECT WHALE WITH MY... OWN TELEPATHY...
YES, IT'S...WORKING! WHALE'S GIVING... IN...
WE'RE FREE!!
WHA-? WH..WHERE ARE WE?
NO TIME TO EXPLAIN NOW! LET'S JUST START SWIMMING-- GET BACK TO THE SCENE OF ACTION AND SEE WHAT'S UP!
IT'S NOT WHAT'S UP THAT'S IMPORTANT ANYMORE, HOWEVER...RATHER, IT'S WHAT'S GOING DOWN...
UH-OH! WE'RE TOO LATE!

PRESENTLY...
WELCOME ABOARD, AQUAMAN! WE ALL SAW THE FIGHT YOU TWO PUT UP AGAINST THAT MADMAN! AND WE FIGURED THAT IF ANYONE COULD STOP THAT SO-CALLED MARAUDER, IT'D BE--
STOW THOSE COMPLIMENTS, SAILOR!
IF THIS ENTIRE NATO ESCORT COULDN'T STOP THAT FOOL, HOW COULD YOU POSSIBLY EXPECT TWO GLORY-SEEKING SUPERHEROES TO DO SO!?
AH, GENERAL MORGAN! I HAD A FEELING YOU MIGHT BE AROUND HERE SOMEWHERE!
THERE ARE A FEW QUESTIONS I WAS SAVING FOR YOU--
QUESTIONS? WHAT GOOD WILL THAT DO NOW! THE MARAUDER ACCOMPLISHED WHAT HE SET OUT TO DO AND IS LONG GONE! THERE'S NO WAY YOU'RE--
...ING YOUR PARDON, SIR! JUST WANTED TO INFORM YOU THAT THE SONAR IS WORKING AGAIN--I MEAN WORKING PERFECTLY!
THE SONAR?!
THAT'S RIGHT! JUST BEFORE THE MARAUDER ATTACKED, THE SONAR WENT COMPLETELY CRAZY --IF THAT'S ANY BUSINESS OF YOURS!
HMM... THAT'S INTERESTING!
VERY INTERESTING!
BUT EVEN AS ONE MYSTERY DRAWS A STEP NEARER TO ITS SOLUTION, ANOTHER ONE IS BEGINNING... FOR IN FAR-OFF ATLANTIS...
DON'T BE SUCH A WORRY-WART, LOVER --NOW THAT VULKO'S ON THE THRONE, EVERYTHING'S GONNA BE ALL RIGHT...
JUST RELAX, AND LET AQUAMAN HANDLE ALL THE WORRYING. THAT'S WHAT HE DOES FOR FUN, ANYWAY!
BUT WE HAVE BETTER WAYS TO HAVE A GOOD TIME, DON'T WE?
YOU'RE THE ORIGINAL GOOD TIME GIRL, AREN'T YOU, TULA? YOU NEVER LET ANYTHING GET IN THE WAY OF YOUR FUN!
WHY SHOULD I, LOVER... IT'S NOT LIKE THERE'S ANYTHING MORE IMPORTANT!
PERHAPS IF ALL THE FACTS WERE KNOWN THAT STATEMENT MIGHT NOT HAVE BEEN MADE, BUT FOR NOW IT WILL HAVE TO STAND...
AND WE WILL TURN FROM THE SHADOWY [illegible] OF

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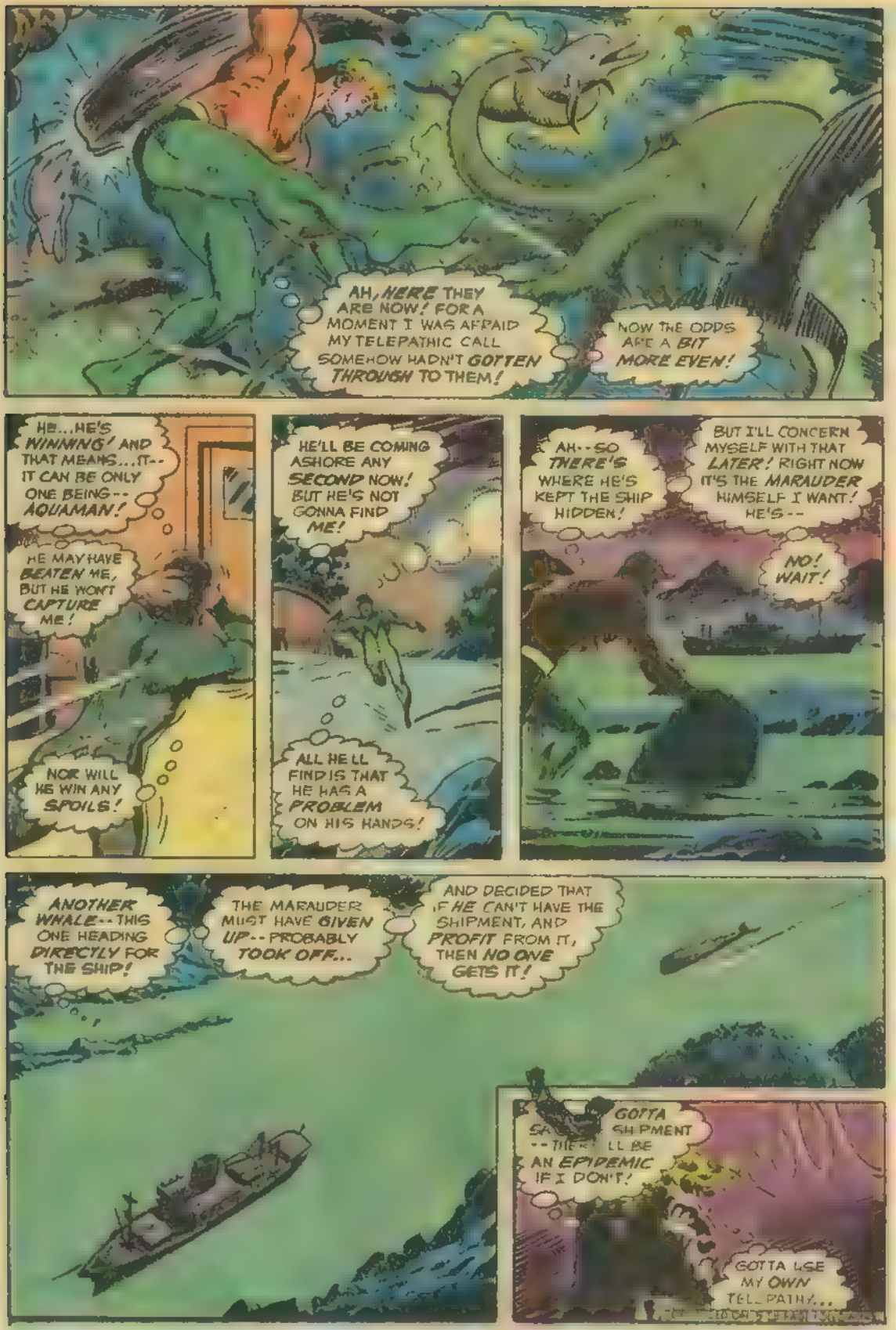
--TO THE MORE OBVIOUS PROBLEMS OF THE SURFACE WORLD..
I'VE A DISTINCT FEELING I WAS A FOOL TO LET YOU TALK ME INTO THIS!
BUT LAST TIME I TRIED TO STOP YOU..*
SIR, IT'S HAPPENED AGAIN! THE SONAR'S GONE INSANE!
THIS IS IT, THEN!
* SEE ADVENTURE # 442 PAUL
THE WAY I SEE IT-- WHATEVER MEANS THE MARAUDER USES TO COMMAND THE SEA CREATURES IS ALSO WHAT SCREWS UP THE SONAR!
I FIGURED IF WE KEPT SEARCHING AROUND UNTIL THE SONAR WENT HAYWIRE WE'D FIND HIS LAIR!
THAT WOODED COVE UP AHEAD LOOKS LIKE THE PERFECT PLACE!
HEY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING? YOU CAN'T--
OH YES I CAN!
THIS SHIP ISN'T CAPABLE OF TAKING ON THE MARAUDER! HE HAS TO BE MET FACE-TO-FACE!
AH - SO THAT'S WHAT HE'S USING HIS TELEPATHY FOR-- COMMANDING THOSE CREATURES TO GUARD HIS HIDE OUT!
HA! IF ONLY HE KNEW THAT BY PLAYING IT SAFE, HE LED US RIGHT TO HIM!
I ALMOST HATE TO FIGHT THESE CREATURES! THIS IS NOT THEIR FAULT! THEY'RE ONLY PAWNS IN THAT SICKO'S GAME!
BUT I'VE GOT "OGE" PAST THEM!
WHA-? RECEIVING TELEPATHY FROM THE DOLPHIN GUARDS! THERE'S SOMEONE HERE! THEY'RE FIGHTING HIM BUT HE'S TRYING TO FIGHT HIS WAY IN!
SOMEHOW SOMEONE'S FOUND THIS PLACE!
IT'S A GOOD THING I NOTICED THE MARAUDER CAN ONLY COMMAND AIR-BREATHING SEA CREATURES! THAT MEANS THERE'S A WHOLE SLEW OF SEA ANIMALS I CAN STILL EMPLOY!
BUT WHERE--


AH, HERE THEY ARE NOW! FOR A MOMENT I WAS AFRAID MY TELEPATHIC CALL SOMEHOW HADN'T GOTTEN THROUGH TO THEM!
NOW THE ODDS ARE A BIT MORE EVEN!
HE...HE'S WINNING! AND THAT MEANS...IT--IT CAN BE ONLY ONE BEING--AQUAMAN!
HE MAY HAVE BEATEN ME, BUT HE WON'T CAPTURE ME!
NOR WILL HE WIN ANY SPOILS!
HE'LL BE COMING ASHORE ANY SECOND NOW! BUT HE'S NOT GONNA FIND ME!
ALL HE'LL FIND IS THAT HE HAS A PROBLEM ON HIS HANDS!
AH--SO THERE'S WHERE HE'S KEPT THE SHIP HIDDEN!
BUT I'LL CONCERN MYSELF WITH THAT LATER! RIGHT NOW IT'S THE MARAUDER HIMSELF I WANT! HE'S--
NO! WAIT!
ANOTHER WHALE--THIS ONE HEADING DIRECTLY FOR THE SHIP!
THE MARAUDER MUST HAVE GIVEN UP--PROBABLY TOOK OFF...
AND DECIDED THAT IF HE CAN'T HAVE THE SHIPMENT, AND PROFIT FROM IT, THEN NO ONE GETS IT!
GOTTA SH PMENT --THE LL BE AN EPIDEMIC IF I DON'T!
GOTTA USE MY OWN TEL PATHY...

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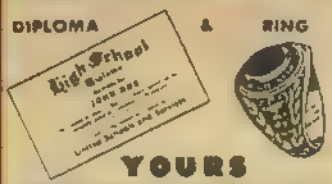

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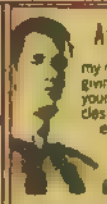

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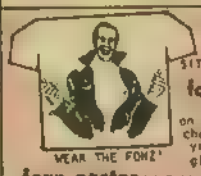

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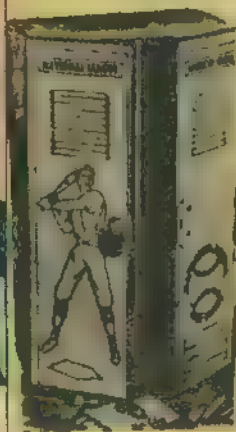

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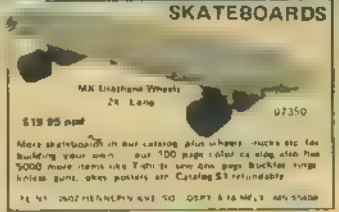

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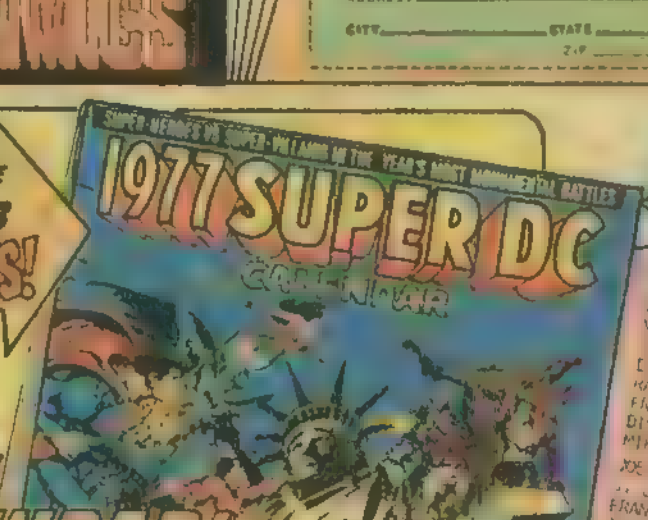

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BUT, SOMEHOW, THIS TIME, I'VE GOT TO OVER-RIDE HIS TELEPATHY...
GOT TO STRAIN MY POWER TO THE LIMIT--BEYOND THE LIMIT! I'VE -
YES... IT'S WORK...ING...
THE WHALE ...IS .. TURNING A...
...ROUND...
DON'T COLLAPSE NOW, HUSBAND-- YOU'VE WON...
THE SERUM'S SAFE-- BUT THE MARAUDER ESCAPED. AND THAT MEANS PROBLEMS...
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SOMETIMES I REALLY CAN'T BELIEVE YOU, TULA! YOU'RE SO INCREDIBLY SELF-INVOLVED! DON'T YOU EVER NOTICE THE WORLD AROUND--
--YOU...
YOUR PEOPLE TOOK MY SON AWAY, YOU PURPLE-EYED DYLIST, AND YOU'RE GOING TO TELL ME HOW TO GET HIM BACK--
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ZATANNA AND ABRA KADABRA STAR IN MAGIC SPECIAL!

SUPER-STARS OF MAGIC HEADLINE HALLOWEEN ISSUE

(DC)—It's Halloween and to celebrate *DC* is bringing you a very special issue of *DC SUPER-STARS* starring *Zatanna* the beautiful lady magician and that master of malevolent magic from the 64th century *Abra Kadabra*

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It's a pair of mystical adventures that will brighten your Halloween No trick—*DC SUPER-STARS #11*, on sale the week of October 25th, is a real treat

BATMAN VS IMPERSONATOR IN SUBWAY TUNNEL

(Gotham City)—A disguised *Batman* is tracking a gangland numbers runner into the Gotham subway The lights go out for a moment and when they come back on—his quarry is wearing a *Batman* costume! What's the catch? You won't believe it when you read the Bob Rozakis/John Calnan/Vince Colletta collaboration on "Pick-Up on Gotham 2-4-6!" in *DETECTIVE COMICS #467* on sale the week of October 25th

Also in the issue The Calculator is back once more and this time he's determined to be The Man Who Skyjacked Hawkman!' There's lots of high-flying action in this one courtesy of Rozakis Marshal Rogers and Terry Austin

TRIVIA QUIZ #25

Believe it or not, there are quite a few reporters in our various magazines Can you name the employers of 1) Clark Kent 2) Iris Allen 3) Billy Batson 4) Jack Ryder 5) Dick Grayson? Answers in next weeks PLANET

ANSWERS TO LAST WEEK'S QUIZ

The doctors we were looking for are *Dr Fate Dr Midnite Dr Light, Dr Polaris* and *Dr Destiny*

BLITZKRIEG BRAIN IS BACK

(Europe World War II)—The Blitzkrieg Brain the Nazi soldier who has been transformed into a mechanical war machine is back and once again his path crosses that of the *Haunted Tank*! Jeb Stuart and his crew learn that 'The Devil Rides a Panzer' in this Bob Kanigher/Sam Glanzman battle blockbuster which is featured in *G.I. COMBAT #198*

And also in this issue which goes on sale the week of October 25th an O.S.S. operative finds himself on a mission aboard The Ship That Would Not Die by Bart Regan and E.R. Cruz

DIRECT CURRENTS

ON SALE THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 25th

ACTION COMICS #467—There's trouble in town . . and it's being caused by the Man of Steel in "Stop It Superman—You're Wrecking the World!' by Gerry Conway Curt Swan and Tex Blaisdell Plus *Krypto* meets *Mr. Mxyzptlk* in 'A Superman's Best Friend is his Superdog!' by Bob Rozakis Swan and Blaisdell

FREEDOM FIGHTERS #6—Halloween in Rutland Vermont and the *Freedom Fighters* are on hand for the Witching Hour of the Warrior Wizards by Bob Rozakis Ramona Fradon and Robert Smith

TARZAN #257—A classic from the past as *Tarzan* relives 'The Nightmare' by Joe Kubert Plus A 'Fantastic Creatures of Edgar Rice Burroughs' page

UNEXPECTED #177—A trio of unexpected adventures Reward for the Wicked "Death is Dangerous to Your Health" and 'Death is the Surprise'

YOUNG LOVE #123—More heartthrobs for the young and in-love including 'Love is the Answer . . "The Lost Love" and 'Twenty Miles to Heartbreak'—plus loads of fabulous features!

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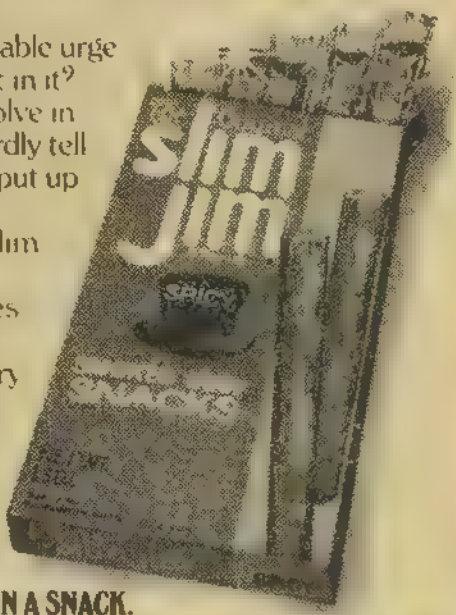

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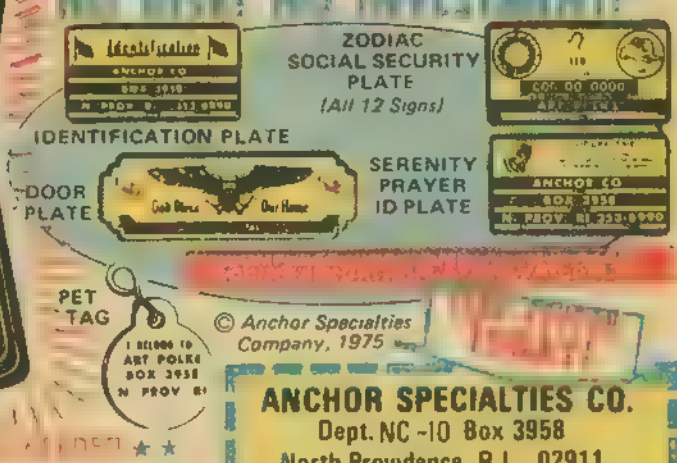

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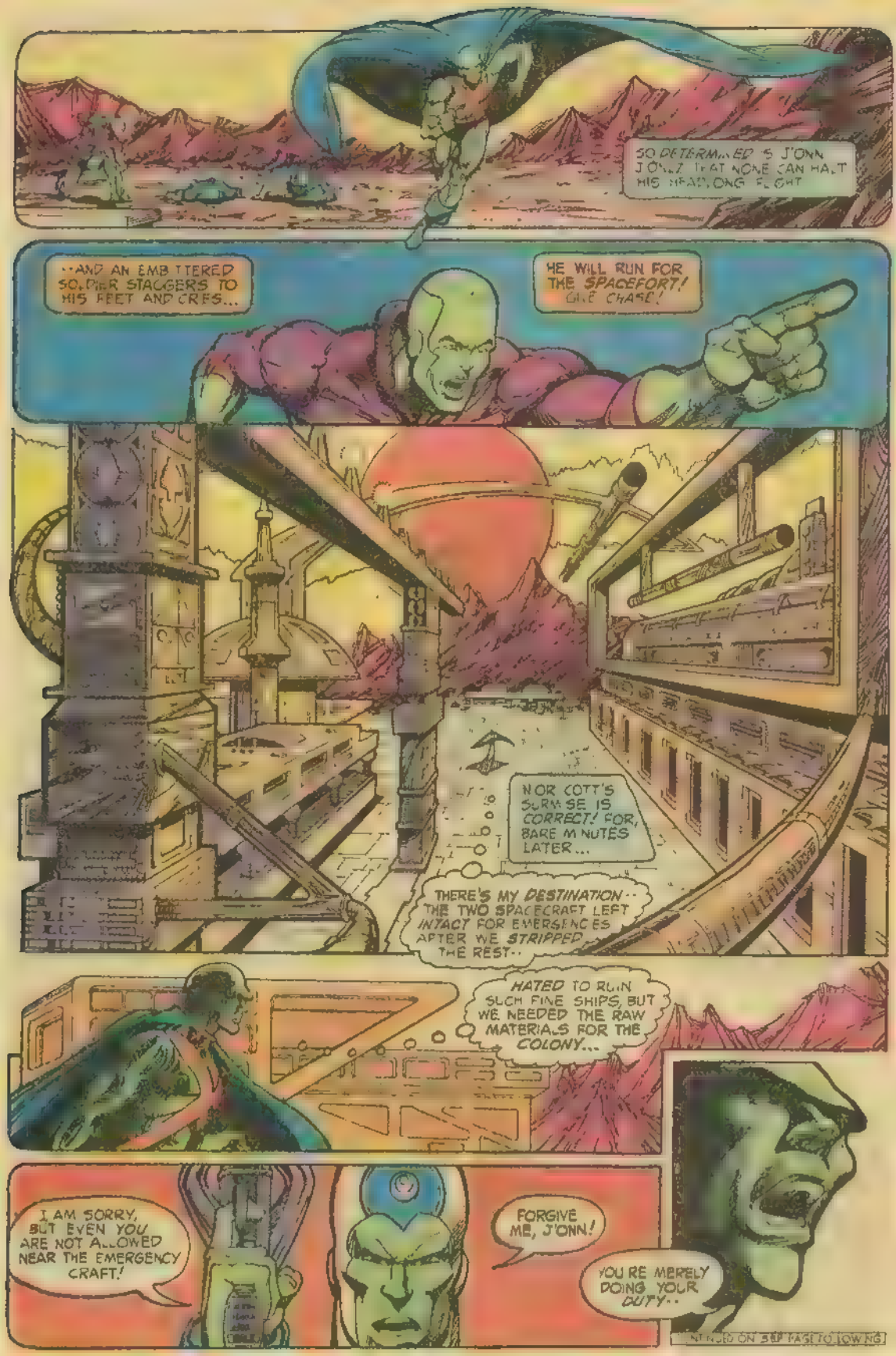
FOR THE SECOND TIME, J'ONN J'ONZZ, YOU HAVE BEEN CHOSEN LEADER BY UNANIMOUS VOTE--!
THEREFORE I GIVE YOU THIS SCEPTER OF STATE TO--
FFSSSSSSST
UNNGH!
HE'S BEEN SHOT!
BEGINNING... A STAR-SPANNING SAGA THAT MARKS THE MUCH-AWAITED RETURN OF THE..
Manhunter FROM Mars
MISSION
CATCH A KILLER
STORY BY ... ART BY MIKE MAYER & TERRY AUSTIN • COLORING BY CARL GAFFORD

FAN OUT! SEE IF YOU CAN NAB WHOEVER FIRED THAT SHOT!--
AND GET MEDICAL HELP--
MOVE!
OU'LL BE ALL RIGHT R ES EDA!
N-NO, DY NG! SAW HIM
. NAS FROM . WAS . SO--
HE'S DEAD! THIS DECENT, WISE MARTIAN S GONE FOREVER! BUT I HAVE A CLUE TO HIS KILLER'S IDENTITY.
--HIS LAST WORD WAS SOL--
AND THAT'S EARTHLINGS' WORD FOR THEIR SUN! THEREFORE I BELIEVE THE MURDERER IS AN EARTHMAN.
AND MORE--
-THE ONLY EARTH PEOPLE WHO KNOW WHERE WE ARE-- OR WHO ARE CAPABLE OF TRAVELING TO THIS WORLD ARE MY FORMER COLLEAGUES IN THE JUSTICE LEAGUE!
WHILE I CANNOT UNDERSTAND WHY THEY WOULD DO SUCH A TH NG I CAN THINK OF NO OTHER POSSIBILITY.
ONE OF THEM IS THE KILLER!

I'M GOING TO FIND HIM AND REVENGE R'ES...
NO! WE CANNOT PERMIT YOU TO LEAVE. YOU ARE NEEDED HERE!
DON'T TRY TO STOP ME NOR COTT
SOK
--NEITHER YOU NOR ANYONE ELSE!
UNNNGH!
CAN'T YOU UNDERSTAND? NO ONE ELSE S FAMILIAR N TH EARTH OR TS PEOPLE!
I LIVED AMONG THEM FOR YEARS!
I MUST GO!
GRAB HIM! AS COMMANDER OF THE ARMY I ORDER IT!
I HATE TO USE VIOLENCE AGAINST MY OWN RACE..
THOD
THOD
BUT I'LL DO WHATEVER S NECESSARY! RES DESERVES T!


SO DETERMINED IS J'ONN J'ONZZ THAT NONE CAN HALT HIS HEADLONG FLIGHT
...AND AN EMBITTERED SOLDIER STAGGERS TO HIS FEET AND CRES...
HE WILL RUN FOR THE SPACEFORT! GIVE CHASE!
NOR COTT'S SURMISE IS CORRECT! FOR, BARE MINUTES LATER...
THERE'S MY DESTINATION... THE TWO SPACECRAFT LEFT INTACT FOR EMERGENCIES AFTER WE STRIPPED THE REST...
HATED TO RUIN SUCH FINE SHIPS, BUT WE NEEDED THE RAW MATERIALS FOR THE COLONY...
I AM SORRY, BUT EVEN YOU ARE NOT ALLOWED NEAR THE EMERGENCY CRAFT!
FORGIVE ME, J'ONN!
YOU'RE MERELY DOING YOUR DUTY...
CONTINUED ON 38TH PAGE TO FOLLOWING

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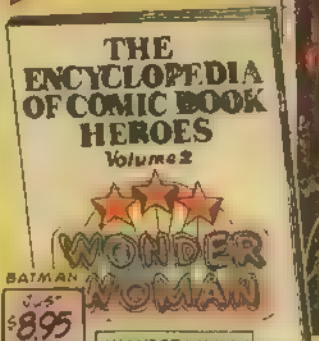

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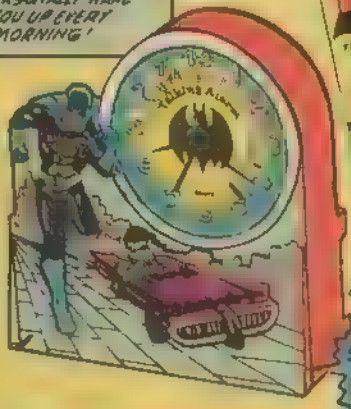

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IT'S STILL A BEAUTIFUL PLANET...A BLUE-GREEN PEARL AGAINST THE HEAVENS...
...BUT I CAN'T ALLOW MYSELF SENTIMENT! R'ES KILLER IS SOMEWHERE DOWN THERE AND I... FIND HIM--OR DIE TRYING!
THUS IT HAS BEGUN-- A CHASE WITH THE MARTIAN MANHUNTER AS BOTH THE HUNTER AND THE HUNTED--
--FOR THOUGH HE DOES NOT KNOW IT, HE TOO IS BEING PURSUED!

NEXT ISSUE: THE CLASH

DATELINE: ADVENTURE

L-568

Dear Joe,

There is an old adage about the calm before the storm. Somehow I believe that applies to **ADVENTURE** #447. No one ever really thought that the Fisherman had a chance of beating **Aquaman.** He was just a villainous diversion to keep us busy while Paul types what is shaping up to be one of 1976's most anxiously awaited conclusions. Not that "Prelude to Armageddon" was boring. Having only seen the Fisherman squaring off with **Aquaman** once before (and that was in **ADVENTURE** #443) I welcome the chance to see any "new" supervillains in action against the king of the seas . . . well, king in spirit anyway. Still, the story didn't advance the Karshon storyline at all, and Aqualad was absent from all but four panels, so I can't judge it a complete success. While we're on the subject of Aqualad, I'd like to know if he's going to appear in this mag as well as the new **Teen Titans** effort.

I can't make my mind up about the **Creeper** tryout. I really like the character, but this storyline just wasn't right. The **Creeper** needs an insidiously dangerous, yet somewhat subtle villain (like Proteus) to provide a contrast to his own smart alecky semi-madness. I do have on suggestion: if it's going to be the **Creeper** who gets the backup spot, then stick with him. Don't alternate with the **Demon**—or anybody. Continuity has always been an Orlando byword, so it's essential that a single character be chosen to be developed.

Kevin L. Callahan, Brea, California

Present plans call for a new back-up whenever a three-parter wraps up, Kevin, since *The Creeper* didn't go over quite well enough. This issue premieres a *Manhunter From Mars* trilogy by Denny O'Neil, Mike Nasser and Terry Austin that we're very proud of, and we have several projects in the works for subsequent issues.

As for Aqualad, he's going to be the key to our next continuity cycle, as astute readers have already guessed, so we won't be abandoning him. He will show up in some issues of *TEEN TITANS*, when his *ADVENTURE*-ing schedule permits.

• • • • •

Dear Joe,

One thing that has made the **Aquaman** series interesting is the increasing attention being paid to his family. And well it should, because **Aquaman,** Mera, Aqualad, Tula, and Aquababy comprise one of the more engrossing family groups in comics today. Take Mera, for instance. She's an alien to earth with super-powers. Yet I could swear she's just another Atlantean. I included Aqualad and Tula in the family because they've been so close to **Aquaman,** I'm sure he considers them almost a son and daughter. And these relationships have been getting closer since **Aquaman** was dethroned. It makes the fantasy world of comics seem more realitic when the characters experience the same emotions real people do.

"Prelude To Armageddon" was a good solid story, that was none too earth-shaking yet did have a few good spots. My favorite was the Fisherman's response to **Aquaman's** "You!!"

I'm sorry to see the **Creeper** featurette end. It was fast-paced, kept my interest, had sometimes entertaining dialogue, beautiful art and was everything a comic story should be and more.

I almost forgot to compliment Aparo on his Aqua-art. If he doesn't win some sort of an award for it, it won't be his fault. Jim's the only artist for **Aquaman,** bar none!

Mike White, Mackinew, Illinois

There's no one we'd rather see illustrating *Aquaman*, either, Mike. And luckily Jim's attached to his first *DC* assignment both sentimentally and creatively, so it's unlikely that he'll ever give up drawing with a water-logged brush.

• • • • •

A few words on the indicia, of all things: With guiding light Joe Orlando moving up to Managing Editor, he no longer has the time to supervise every title with the same loving attention he once gave, so former Aqua-assistant editor and writer Paul Levitz has fulfilled a life-long dream and become the Story Editor of *ADVENTURE COMICS*. *Aquaman* fans know his creative credentials better than any other *DC* readers, so we'll leave the introduction at that . . . except to let those of you who support young blood in comics know that this issue reached your newsstand on our new Story Editor's 20th birthday.

• • • • •

Now, more then ever, your comments and criticism of *ADVENTURE COMICS* are wanted and needed. Please address them to: DATELINE: ADVENTURE, National Periodical Publications, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, New York 10019. And remember that while even the *Flash* couldn't personally answer every letter, we do read and consider every comment. Thanks.

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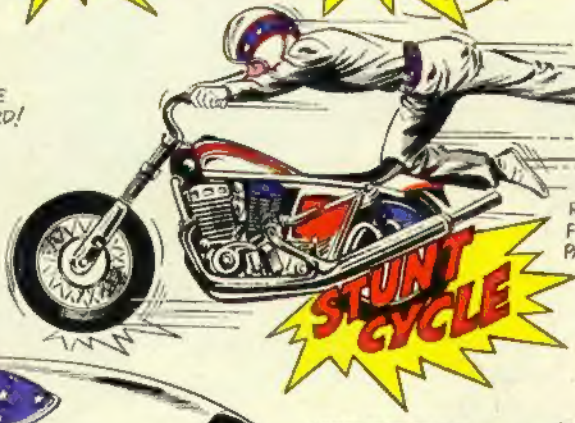

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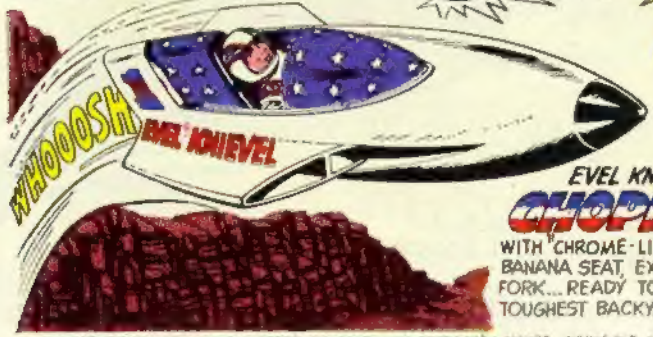

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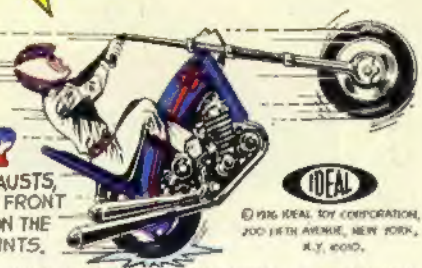

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